

House Concurrent Resolution No. 23

91ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY

1998L.011

2 **Whereas**, the Windfall Elimination Provision of WEP was added to the federal Social
3 Security Act in 1983 to prevent unfairly inflated benefits for persons who held highly compensated
4 government positions that were not covered by Social Security and who also had brief, relatively low-
5 paying Social Security covered employment; and

6 **Whereas**, the WEP has had the unintended consequence of undermining the retirement
7 plans of individuals who have been teachers and who often continue to hold Social Security covered
8 employment during summers and holidays; and

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10 **Whereas**, Missouri and other states are anticipating an increased rate of teacher retirement
11 and difficulty attracting young adults into the education field; and

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13 **Whereas**, the WEP also serves to discourage mid-life career changes from Social Security
14 covered employment to employment covered by public pensions such as teaching; and

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16 **Whereas**, the WEP often works in conjunction with another income-reducing feature, the
17 government pension offset (GPO) that bears disproportionately on women, to doubly affect the teacher
18 corps which is still primarily made up of women; and

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20 **Whereas**, the formula of the WEP assumes retirees have had a higher-paying position over
21 the entire course of their careers, an assumption which is contrary to the fact for teachers; and

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23 **Whereas**, many teachers need a second income and therefore work in Social Security
24 covered positions, thereby activating the WEP; and

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26 **Whereas**, the continuation of the WEP and GPO impacts presently retired teachers,
27 teachers near retirement, and young adults entering the education field, all who are essential parts of our
28 national education corps:
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30 **Now, therefore, be it resolved** that the members of the House of
31 Representatives of the Ninety-first General Assembly, First Regular Session, the Senate concurring
32 therein, hereby urge the 107th Congress to rescind the Windfall Elimination Provision for teachers; and
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34 **Be it further resolved** that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of
35 Representatives be instructed to prepare properly inscribed copies of this resolution for each member
36 of the Missouri congressional delegation.